

## CLAIMS

1. A method of creating a ring tone file, comprising the acts of:  
receiving on a handset an electronic data file comprising a master recording;  
receiving on the handset a ring tone start designation for a first time during an output of the master recording;  
receiving on the handset a ring tone stop designation for a second time during the output of the master recording;  
creating a ring tone file from a portion of the electronic data file defined by the start designation and the stop designation; and  
making the ring tone file available for selection by a user.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the ring tone stop designation comprises an elapsed time after the ring tone start designation.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving on the handset the electronic data file comprises receiving the electronic data file via a wireless signal.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
associating the ring tone file with an input communication source.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the step of associating the ring tone file with the input communication source comprises associating the ring tone file with one of a paging system and a telephone system.
6. A computer-readable storage medium encoded with a computer program which, when loaded into a processor, implements the method of claim 1.

7. A handset comprising:
  - a processor;
  - a memory coupled to the processor;
  - a user interface coupled to the processor; and a user-defined ring tone file stored in the memory, wherein the stored ring tone file is defined by the user entering a ring tone start designation for a master recording data file and by the user entering a ring tone stop designation for the master recording data file.
8. The handset of claim 7, wherein the ring tone stop designation comprises an elapsed time after the ring tone start designation.
9. The handset of claim 7, wherein the handset comprises a wireless handset.
10. The handset of claim 9, wherein the wireless handset comprises one of a cellular phone, a personal digital assistant, and a pager.
11. The handset of claim 7, wherein the user-defined ring tone file is associated with an input communication source.
12. The handset of claim 11, wherein the input communication source comprises one of a paging system and a telephone system.
13. The handset of claim 12, wherein the telephone system comprises a multiline system.
14. A method of manufacturing a wireless handset, comprising the acts of:
  - configuring the handset to receive an electronic data file comprising a master recording;
  - configuring the handset to receive a first user input, wherein the first user input enables the user to input a ring tone start designation for a first time during an output of the master recording;

configuring the handset to receive a second user input, wherein the second user input enables the user to input a ring tone stop designation for a second time during the output of the master recording;

configuring the handset to create a ring tone file from a portion of the electronic data file defined by the start designation and the stop designation; and

configuring the handset to make the ring tone file available for selection by the user.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the ring tone stop designation comprises an elapsed time after the ring tone start designation.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of configuring the handset to receive the electronic data file comprises configuring the handset to receive the electronic data file via a wireless signal.

17. The method of claim 14, further comprising:  
configuring the handset to associate the ring tone file with an input communication source.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of configuring the handset to associate to the ring tone file with the input communication source comprises associating the ring tone file with one of a paging system and a telephone system.